



POST A. VIRGINIA DIVISION

GREETING

TRAVELERS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA.

COMMERCE AND LABOR

Great Magnitude of New Department of Government.

CORTELYSON SECRETARY

Everything in the Way of Industry and Trade Has Been Placed Under This New Agency, Including Trusts.

The new Department of Commerce and Labor, which is now being organized under the recent act of Congress, is of a magnitude little realized by the average person. The new department will have a staff of about fifteen hundred employees at the Washington headquarters and some ten thousand including temporary and permanent appointees, outside the capital.

It is fortunate for Mr. Cortelyou that, as the first head of the Department of Commerce and Labor, he will be relieved at the outset of the task of making a large number of appointments. He will have enough to do in rearranging and adjusting the working parts of the vast machine he is to control and setting in motion and giving the proper direction to the new apparatus.

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT.

It is hardly necessary to enumerate the functions of the Department of Commerce and Labor. They are indicated broadly by its name, and may be said to include almost every important agency of the government which has to deal with industry and trade.

The State Department contributes its only commercial bureau—that engaged in the publication of the consular reports—and from the Treasury everything is taken that could well be utilized in the new Department, including the Bureau of Statistics, which compiles the figures of exports and imports and a variety of other commercial data; the Bureau of Navigation, dealing with our merchant marine; the Steamboat Inspection Service; the Light-house Establishment; the Alaskan fisheries; the Bureau of Immigration; the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and the Bureau of Standards. The Interior Department contributes the Census Office, and the hitherto unattached Department of Labor and the Fish Commission are also brought into the new Department.

TRUST QUESTION.

Owing to the recent agitation of the trust question, public interest has naturally centered in the new Bureau of Corporations, which is charged with the duty of investigating the organization and management of corporations, joint stock companies and corporate combinations except common carriers, subject to existing law, that are engaged in commerce among the several States and with foreign nations, and of making public the results.

EFFECT ON FOREIGN TRADE.

So far as the ordinary currents of our commerce and industry are concerned, the new Department will probably be most helpful in giving a fresh impetus and, what is needed most of all, an intelligent and systematic direction to the

Mr. Cortelyou On New Department.

Department of Commerce and Labor
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington

April 3, 1903.

To the Executive Committee,
Special T.P.A. Edition of the Times-Dispatch,
Richmond, Virginia.

Gentlemen:

I have read with much interest the communications recently addressed to me in connection with the proposed special edition of the Times-Dispatch.

As already stated to several of your representatives, I greatly regret that I shall not be able to meet your wishes for an expression as to the policy to be pursued in the conduct of this new Department. Work done is better than work promised. I must wait until we have had some results before I shall feel justified in writing or saying much on this subject. As a basis for whatever may be accomplished in the future there must be thorough and conservative organization. To this we are bending our best efforts, and I am sure we shall have the hearty cooperation of the important interests which the Department was created to serve.

It was a pleasure to meet your representatives in Washington, and I hope to have the opportunity at some future time of becoming better acquainted with the work of your organization.

Very truly yours,

John M. Cortelyou
Secretary.

expansion of foreign markets for our manufactured goods.

The Department of Commerce will have a double part to play. On the one hand, it will be its province to keep our manufacturers and exporters informed as to conditions abroad and the special requisites for obtaining the largest possible share of the world's

trade; and on the other hand, it will be able to direct and give full effect to an intelligent propaganda in foreign countries for making known the distinctive merits of our wares. Its main reliance for some time to come will be our consular service, which,

notwithstanding its alleged shortcomings, is now generally conceded to be doing valuable work in both directions. Under the new organization the consular officers will continue to be subject to the direction of the Department of State, but the latter is to co-operate with the

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LAWS FOR ASSOCIATION

The Legislature Department an Important One.

HAS DONE SPLENDID WORK

The Department of Commerce Traceable Directly to the Indefatigable Working the Members of This Committee—Its Functions.

The National Legislative Department of the Travelers' Protective Association deals with all questions (which concern our organization as a commercial body), which may come before Congress.

The National Committee is composed of nine members appointed by the chairman, who is elected annually by the National Convention.

It is the purpose of the chairman to appoint a majority of the committee from such members of our organization as are in sympathy with the political party in power.

This committee has assisted in securing the passage of many bills of interest to the commerce of our country, and recognizing that the men who bring the markets of the world to your doors, and save you the time and expense of going to distant cities to make your purchases, should not be taxed for the privilege of bestowing such favor upon the public. It secured a decision from the Supreme Court of the United States declaring unconstitutional, and thus nullifying and obliterating the infamous license law, which imposed upon commercial travelers an occupation tax. It has secured by its exclusive efforts an amendment to the Interstate Commerce Act, which permits the railroads to issue interchangeable mileage and to give special free baggage privileges with mileage tickets.

It works for many things which cannot be accomplished by individual effort, and it "keeps everlastingly at it" until its efforts are crowned with success.

WORK TOGETHER.

The National Legislative Committee is greatly assisted by the State as well as the Post Legislative Committee. The National chairman communicates with these committees, and requests that they write to their congressmen and Senators, asking their influence and support for any measure endorsed by the Association. Thus we reach every congressman and Senator.

The country is now about to enter upon a new era in her commercial sphere with the aid of a secretary of commerce, brought about through the influence of the Travelers' Protective Association of America.

In 1896 the Travelers' Protective Association, the representative body of American commercial travelers, met in the State of Texas. Following the regular convention, the delegates junketed to the city of Mexico where they were entertained by President Diaz and the American Consul-General, ex-Governor Crittenden of Missouri. At a banquet in the land of the Aztecs, the suggestion was made by the Consul-General that it

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COST OF MEMBERSHIP.

It costs to join the Association a membership fee of \$2.00, which is divided, \$1.00 to the National Indemnity Fund, \$0.50 to the State Division and \$0.50 to the local Post.

The dues are \$11.00 per annum, payable \$5.50 January 1st and \$5.50 July 1st. Application blanks can be obtained from any State Secretary or from the National Secretary. The membership fee of \$2.00, and \$5.50 for the first six months' dues must accompany each application, but payments for the full year can, of course, be made. The funds are divided as follows:

	Nat. Ind. Fund.	State Fund.	Reserve Fund.	Local Post.
Fee, \$2.00	\$1.00	\$0.50	\$0.50	
Dues, \$11.00	\$5.50	\$5.50		

ACCIDENT INSURANCE BENEFITS.

\$5,000	\$25,000	\$2,500	\$2,500
In case of Death	Weekly indemnity not to exceed \$2 weeks in case of Accident.	Loss of both legs or both Arms.	Loss of One Arm and one Leg.
\$1,000	\$1,000	\$5,000	\$1,000
Loss of one Hand or one Foot.	Loss of one Arm or one Leg.	Loss of both Eyes.	Loss of one Eye.